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THE CRITIC,

54 D STREET,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WHICH ALTERNATIVE?

After showing that this country has

by its laws and in the proclamations of

the President, as far back as July 27,

1848, claimed absolute sovereignty over

the mainland, islands and waters of

the territory ceded to the United States

by the Emperor of Russia," the New

York Sun says:

The Behring Sea question will re-

main in an unsatisfactory and dan-

gerous condition till Congress does

one of two things, and we do not see

how any candid and logical mind

can reject the alternative. First, modify

the laws that for domestic pur-

poses assume a jurisdiction which we

cannot, or are not prepared to main-

tain as against dispute by a foreign na-

tion; or, secondly, come out squarely

with a declaration to the world that

Behring Sea is ours, that we bought it

and paid for it, and that we propose to

enforce our laws all over its waters,

without regard to international con-

ventions.

It seems to us that this proposition

is unworkable. We have asserted

these claims and, until quite recently,

maintained them. If our claims are

to be abandoned now, in the face of

England's threat that she will contest

them by force, let them be abandoned

frankly, and let the nation sit down

in the ashes for awhile until it gets

used to the humiliation. If the claims are

not to be abandoned let the Government

make the declaration to that effect.

The New York Tribune says this

morning:

The British Government has not ap-

peared to want to settle this dispute.

What, then, can it want? It manifests

no inclination to create a closed season

which can be of real avail in saving the

seal, and we are left to our own rights

or to lower our moderate claims. It is

not one of us to be trifled with.

Partisan appeals and partisan blows

are like inopportune in American journals

or among American statesmen. The

Administration's hands should be

strengthened, not weakened. We are

asking nothing novel, nothing in-

consistent with our former posi-

tion, and nothing that is not abso-

lutely necessary to the safety and

permanence of the sea industry. Un-

less the Democrats with President Har-

rison to invite the country's humili-

ation and loss, they should speak ear-

nestly and bravely to Congress, and

the Government and in appeal that Mr.

Blaine stand fairly on the ground

first occupied by Mr. Bayard.

There is no room for partisanship

here, except the big, brotherly, patri-

otic partisanship which must thrill

every American to the core when the

honor of the dignity of the nation is at

stake. There will be no effort to

weaken the Administration, once the

Administration speaks for the country's

manhood.

Why don't it speak?

BALLOU'S LITTLE GAME.

Mr. William H. Ballou is in

danger of bursting with solicitude

touching the wicked tendency to satirize

the President of the United States and

his large but estimable family con-

YOUTHFUL POISONERS

Try to Poison a Disolute Woman Who

Lived with Her Father.

BUTLUM, N. Y., July 25.—Mrs.

Wade, who keeps a boarding-house on

East Market street, Mary Sylva, aged

16 years, and her brother John, aged

15 years, were arrested yesterday

morning, charged with attempt-

ing to poison Annie Silks, a

disolute woman, who lived with the

children's father. The boy confessed

and said that Mrs. Wade gave him

money to buy arsenic, and that he

gave it to Annie Silks. The girl

denied the charge, and said that she

gave the arsenic to the boy. The

children were taken to the police

station, and the woman was taken to

the police station. The woman was

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FAIR PLAY ASKED FOR.

REED'S SCANDALOUS TREATMENT OF

THE CLAIMS OF WORKMEN.

Their Interests Entirely Ignored by

Congress. The Committee on Labor

Cannot Get a Hearing.

Broken Promises.

Editor Critic: Will you give me a

little space in your valuable paper to

make an inquiry and statement in re-

lation to matters of interest to a large

number of the workmen of Washington

and the country generally. First, it

is that of all the committees in Con-

gress the Committee on Labor should

be ignored. Congress has now been in

session for over a year, and not one

bill has been given to the Labor Com-

mittee of the House in which to con-

sider bills reported by it. I have made

frequent inquiries of the chairman of

the committee in relation to the

matter and have invariably been told

that the matter rested entirely with

the Speaker, and that he had promised

himself to take it up. He has now

promised to take it up, but he has

not yet done so. He has now

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MADE CRAZY BY RELIGION.

A Young Philadelphia Girl's Asylum

Experience.

ASBURY PARK, N. J., July 25.—Miss

Lizzie Dunn, who has been suffering

from religious mania, was taken away

by her family yesterday. She is a

pretty, immature, 25 years old, and is

the youngest daughter of J. F. Dunn,

an old cloth manufacturer of Philadelphia.

Miss Dunn was found last Tuesday

at midnight wandering around the

bench. She paid no attention to the

police when they questioned her, and

she was taken to the police station.

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